



San Diego City Attorney **CASEY GWINN**

MEDIA RELEASE

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Press Advisory

On Wednesday, May 3, 2000 at 9:00 AM, on the 12th floor of City Hall, the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee of the San Diego City Council will take the first public vote on the recommendations of the City's Vice Task Force regarding possible changes to the San Diego Municipal Code related to adult entertainment establishments in the City of San Diego.

San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn will support most of the recommendations but the City Attorney and the Police Chief will oppose the pornography industry on two important issues: 1) Should adult entertainment establishments be allowed to operate all night long rather than required to close at 2AM?; 2) Should so called "peep show booths" be allowed to have doors with locks or should the doors be disallowed to prevent group sex, masturbation, and a variety of unsanitary and unsafe sex practices?

San Diego Police Department vice officers have documented the following found in peep show booths across the city: excrement, sexual paraphernalia, used condoms, semen, used Kleenex, used napkins, clothing, urine, narcotics paraphernalia, balloons, and matches. They have been refused entry to booths in most of the businesses who have doors on their peep show booths

although they have a right to inspect. During a recent (4/7 & 4/8, 2000) inspection of 19 peep booth establishments, City vice personnel issued “notices of violation” at 12 of the businesses. They made 4 arrests for violation of Penal Code section 647(a), (Lewd Act in Public), and one arrest for violation of H & S Code section 11364 (possession of narcotics paraphernalia).

The City Attorney and the Police Department will be urging the City Council to do nothing that allows for the expansion or increases the popularity of these types of porn industry businesses in San Diego. They will oppose allowing these businesses to remain open all night and they will oppose allowing privacy doors in any of the booths.

San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn anticipates additional initiatives in the weeks and months to come which will attempt to stop the proliferation of adult businesses in the City of San Diego. Today's vote is a crucial first discussion in the upcoming effort.